



School District No. 59 (Peace River South)

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 59 (PEACE RIVER SOUTH)

11600 – 7TH Street, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4R8

Open Board Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: December 10, 2025 – 1:00 PM

PLACE: School Board Office – Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT: Trustees:
C. Anderson (Chair)
R. Gulick (Vice-Chair)
C. Hillton
S. Mounsey
A. Schurmann
C. Wards (via Zoom)
T. Jones

C. Fennell, Superintendent
K. Morris, Secretary Treasurer & Recording Secretary

REGRETS: Nil

Called to Order – 1:07 PM

The Board Chair acknowledged that we share this territory with the people of Treaty 8.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions: Nil

Deletions: Nil

(2025-12-005)

MOVED/SECONDED – Schurmann/Mounsey

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 59 (Peace River South) approve the December 10, 2025 Regular Meeting agenda as presented.

CARRIED

1.0 ITEMS FOR ADOPTION

R1.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2025

The Chair asked for any corrections to the minutes.

(2025-12-006)

The Chair declared the minutes of the open meeting November 19, 2025 approved as presented.

R1.2 Excerpts of Closed Board Meeting – November 19, 2025

(2025-12-007)

The Chair declared the excerpts of the closed board meeting November 19, 2025 approved as presented.

2.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.0 ESSENTIAL ITEMS

4.0 PRESENTATIONS

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

R5.1 – November 25, 2025 – cc: Letter from MoECC (Re: Meeting with Chetwynd Mayor Courtoreille)

6.0 REPORTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

R6.1 School/Student News

The Superintendent reported school/student news:

- Don Titus Montessori's Kindergarten/Grade 1 class is busy working on sight words, building STEM projects, creating patterns, and working in literacy centres.
- Dawson Creek Secondary School - South Peace Campus' media arts class had fun creating animation projects. The Penguin Periodical is a student focused project that is published quarterly – the latest publication is available for viewing. Students created Metis dot art. Two students have been selected to attend the legislative assembly over the winter break. Students have been selected to attend the Youth Explore Trades Sampler (YETS) program for second semester at Northern Lights College. A student has built a shed as part of his capstone project and auctioned it off for fundraising for graduation events. The school also held a Winter Wonderland that featured carnival activities.
- Tremblay Elementary School is focussing on spirit and leadership events at their school assemblies. The school created a toy and bookstore where students and families can shop and share resources. Each month the Seven Teachings Spirit Awards are presented to students that display the seven teachings. The school hosted a turkey lunch for students and families at the school. The school's volleyball team placed 3rd in the district elementary tournament.
- Chetwynd Secondary School's French class performed a play for other classes.
- Windrem Elementary School students are enjoying their buddy reading activities. Students are also enjoying trips to the local skating rink.

- Tumbler Ridge Secondary School students made wood and salt dough ornaments and bird houses. The school hosted an open house for the school's fish farm. A student is very excited to have created a stool he made on his own during his independent class with the help of the woodshop teacher.
- Parkland Elementary has started afternoon focussed events which have included playing chess, scaling the climbing wall, and crocheting.
- Central and South Peace Campus students are enjoying the new wrestling intramural program.
- Primary teachers participated in a workshop focused on Powerful Writing Structures.
- Chetwynd Secondary students had the opportunity to learn about wildfire management and careers opportunities along with Indigenous land management strategies during a recent field trip to Cameron Lake. The senior boys' volleyball team was excited to qualify and attend the provincial 'A' Championships this year.
- Canalta Elementary students are enjoying snow activities, winter fox artwork, and afterschool clubs have started where students can participate in a variety of activities of interest to them. Students had to research various countries and their governments and then create their own country and determine which government would run their country. Students presented their projects.
- The district was honoured to be able to attend the international para-hockey event that took place at the Oviatt Centre in Dawson Creek. Students were able to watch the games and even participate in trying para-hockey themselves. It was a great opportunity and everyone enjoyed the spirited competition. Students created posters and one of the highlights was having members of the para-hockey teams visit various schools.
- Indigenous Education department members attended the First Nation Education Steering Committee conference.
- A Chetwynd student held a fundraiser event for her capstone project which raised over \$20,000 for Parkinson's disease research.

R6.2 Integrated Child and Youth Team

Integrated Child and Youth (ICY) Teams is a new program that is part of a provincial strategy to provide wraparound mental health and substance use services and supports for children and youth that is delivered by multidisciplinary teams. The teams include ICY program leaders, mental health clinical staff, clinical counsellors, substance use clinicians, peer supports, and Indigenous and multicultural supports. ICY teams operate within school districts. The teams work towards culturally safer, distinctions-based, and child-youth, family, and community-centered approaches. The multidisciplinary approach expands the diversity of mental health supports that allow children and youth access to services when needed. To date, the local team has received sixty referrals.

R6.3 AED's and Naloxone Kits in Schools

In relation to the Ministry's Response to Unexpected Health Emergencies policy, school districts must establish their own policy and have AED's and naloxone kits accessible in all secondary schools by December 31, 2025.

Superintendent Fennell reported that all three high schools are equipped with naloxone kits and AED equipment. The District is working on procuring nasal spray naloxone which is easier to administer than the syringe form.

7.0 REPORTS FROM THE SECRETARY TREASURER

R7. 2024-2025 Statement of Financial Information Report

The Secretary Treasurer presented the Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report for the 2024-2025 school year. The annual report is required by all public institutions and publishes the names, remuneration and related expenses of employees earning over \$75,000, vendors paid over \$25,000, and elected officials' income and expenses. The report will be available for viewing on the school district website.

(2025-12-008)

MOVED/SECONDED – Hillton/Mounsey

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 59 (Peace River South) adopt the Statement of Financial Information Report as presented.

CARRIED

Board Chair Anderson reported that at the 2025 BCSTA AGM, a motion was passed to request the Ministry of Finance to increase the remuneration thresholds.

R7.2 Secretary Treasurer Report – December 2025

The Secretary Treasurer's report for December was provided for information.

R7.3 Capital Projects Report – December 2025

Crescent Park Elementary School Expansion

The Secretary-Treasurer reported potential winter construction is posing significant risk and impact on budget, therefore the project completion and occupancy dates are rescheduled for summer 2026. The Ministry, school community and staff are aware of the schedule change.

ChildcareBC New Spaces – Tremblay & Tumbler Ridge Elementary Schools

The SD59 project team is awaiting a decision relative to the application for additional funding for both Dawson Creek and Tumbler Ridge childcare projects due to the escalation of costs since the initial application was submitted to the Ministry of Education and ChildCare in 2023.

Full updates on the capital projects are available at <https://www.sd59.bc.ca/district/capital-projects>.

8.0 TRUSTEE ITEMS

R8.1 BCSTA Update – C. Anderson

Chair Anderson presented the latest news and events from the BCSTA.

All trustees attended the BCSTA Academy conference held in Vancouver from November 27-29, 2025. Trustees reported the sessions were all very valuable learning opportunities.

Upcoming BCSTA Events:

Northern Interior Branch Meeting (NIB) - TBD

9.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

R9.1 Indigenous Education Partners' Advisory Councils

Trustee Hillton reported the December meeting for the Chetwynd council was cancelled. The next meeting will be in January.

Trustee Jones reported the Dawson Creek held their annual Enhancement Agreement meeting on November 25, 2025. School principals, coach mentors, senior staff and parent representatives attended the meetings to develop and share the school goals for this year. Trustees were also in attendance in their role as school liaisons.

R9.2 Policy Committee

The Policy Committee is reviewing a number of policies. Most revisions are updating to current language and practices of the District.

The committee recommended two policies be considered for repeal for the following reasons:

- 3020 Employment of Summer Students – no longer reflects current SD59 practices
- 3080 Retirement – retirement provisions are addressed in collective agreements

(2025-12-009)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Hillton

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 59 (Peace River South) circulate the following policy for consideration of repeal for a minimum of 30 days:

- 3020 Employment of Summer Students
- 3080 Retirement

CARRIED

10.0 DIARY

11.0 NOTICE OF MOTION

12.0 QUESTION PERIOD

A question and answer period was provided.

Nil

13.0 FUTURE BUSINESS

R13.1 - Regular Board Meeting – January 21, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

(2025-12-010)

MOVED – Hillton

THAT, the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2025 be terminated. (2:22 PM)

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Original Signed By:
C. Anderson, Board Chair

Original Signed By:
K. Morris Secretary Treasurer